



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

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MAUREEN BLACKTHORNE SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON ON TAX CHARGE

U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that Maureen Blackthorne was sentenced to 1 year plus 1 day in federal prison after a jury convicted her of filing a fraudulent income tax return.

Evidence presented during trial last March revealed that Blackthorne filed a false 1999 Income Tax Return, Form 1040. The jury found that Blackthorne failed to report \$430,378.17 of income generated from a business she conducted using the name "R.S. Medical," the trade name of a corporation of which her husband had been an employee and part owner. Blackthorne, using the name "R.S. Medical," bought and sold used medical equipment.

The case was investigated by special agents of the San Antonio Field Office of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys William R. Harris and Jim Blankinship.

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